

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 4 and 6 - 11 are now pending in this application. Claim 7 is allowed. Claims 1, 2 and 8 are rejected. Claims 3 - 6 are objected to. Claim 5 is cancelled herein. New claims 9 - 11 are added. Claims 1 - 4 and 6 - 8 are amended herein to clarify the invention, to express the invention in alternative wording, and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of the allowance of previous claim 7, and the allowability of previous claims 3 - 6, which were objected to, but which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter and which would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 5, thereby placing amended claim 1 in condition for allowance as an independent version of previous claim 5, which is now cancelled, and which contains all the limitations of previous claims 1 and 5.

Claims 3, 4 and 6 each continue to be multiply dependent from claim 1 or claim 2. The dependencies of claims 3, 4 and 6, each taken together with amended claim 1 or claim 2, are proper and are not mutually exclusive.

New claims 9, 10 and 11 have also been added to recite the substance of previous claims 3, 4 and 6 as independent claims in combination with the

limitations of **previous** claim 1, in order to place each of claims 3, 4 and 6 commensurate in scope with each of previous claims 3, 4 and 6, in allowable condition in accordance with the Examiner's indications.

No substantive changes have been made to claim 7, which was previously allowed by the amendments made herein. The amendments to claim 7 are formal in nature and have been made for clarity and to ensure that there is proper antecedent basis for each term used therein.

In the Office Action, previous claims 1, 2 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,042,022 to Ogawa ("Ogawa").

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing rejection in view of Ogawa is overcome by the amendments to the claims presented by this Amendment; that the rejection should be withdrawn in view of the amended and new claims presented by this Amendment; and that the rejection should not be applied to any of the amended or new claims pending in the application after entry of this Amendment. All claims pending in the present application after entry of this Amendment patentably distinguish over Ogawa for the reasons previously indicated by the Examiner for the allowance of previous claim 7 and for the allowability of previous claim 3 - 6 if amended or rewritten in independent form.

All of the claims pending in the application after entry of this Amendment are in accordance with what the Examiner has previously indicated to have been allowed to be allowable if rewritten as has been done herein. No new matter has been added to the claims as a result of the amendments to the claims or by the new claims presented by this Amendment.

Prior to entry of this Amendment, there were a total of twelve (12) claims in the present application, as follows: three (3) independent claims; one (1) singularly dependent claim; and four (4) multiple dependent claims, each depending from two claims (equivalent to eight (8) dependent claims), for a total of three (3) independent claims and nine (9) dependent claims for a grand total of twelve (12) claims.

One multiple dependent claim (claim 5) is cancelled and three (3) new independent claims (claims 9 - 11) are added by this Amendment. After entry of this Amendment, therefore, there are six (6) independent claims, one (1) singularly dependent claim and three (3) multiple dependent claims, each depending from two claims (equivalent to six (6) dependent claims, for a total of six (6) independent claims and thirteen (13) total claims in the application.

Therefore, an additional claims fee in the amount of \$600.00 is now due for three (3) additional independent claims. Authorization to charge the fee therefor,

as well as other fees now due, to the indicated credit card is made in the accompanying form PTO-2038.

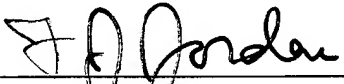
Applicants respectfully request a one month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Authorization to charge the fee therefor, as well as other fees now due, to the indicated credit card is made in the accompanying form PTO-2038.

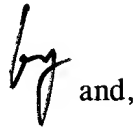
In the event the amount due for the foregoing and/or any other fees that may be due is different from the amount authorized to be charged in the accompanying form PTO-2038, authorization is hereby made to charge any other fees due or to credit any overpayments that may have been made to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.


In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

JORDAN AND HAMBURG LLP

By   
Frank J. Jordan  
Reg. No. 20,456  
Attorney for Applicants

 and,

By   
Herbert F. Ruschmann  
Reg. No. 35,341  
Attorney for Applicants

Jordan and Hamburg LLP  
122 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10168  
(212) 986-2340

FJJ/HRJ/HFR/cj